IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

Please cancel claims 1-31.

Please add the following claims.

1-31   (Cancelled)

32.   (New) A machine-readable medium having instructions to cause a machine to perform a method of managing a switchable bilateral electronic negotiation, the method comprising:

facilitating a first active negotiation between a first party and a second party, wherein the facilitating the first active negotiation includes exchanging multi-attribute offers between the first party and the second party;

facilitating a first inactive negotiation between the first party and a third party, wherein facilitating the first inactive negotiation includes receiving a submitted multi-attribute offer from the third party;

automatically dropping the first active negotiation between the first party and the second party;

facilitating a second active negotiation between the first party and the third party; and

facilitating a second inactive negotiation between the first party and the second party.

33.   (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 32, wherein facilitating the first active negotiation includes updating a first negotiation object.

34.   (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 32, wherein facilitating the first inactive negotiation includes updating a second negotiation object.

35.   (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 32, wherein facilitating the first inactive negotiation includes receiving a submitted multi-attribute offer from the third party.

36.   (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 35, wherein the submitted multi-attribute offer is greater than a most recent submitted multi-attribute offer from the second party associated with the first active negotiation.

37.   (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 32, further comprising automatically querying the first party whether to drop the first active negotiation.

38.   (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 32, wherein facilitating the first active negotiation includes receiving a retraction of an offer associated with the first active negotiation and retracting the offer associated with the first active negotiation.

39.   (New) A machine-readable medium having instructions to cause a machine to perform a method of managing a concurrent bilateral negotiation, the method comprising:

facilitating a first active negotiation between a first party and a second party, wherein facilitating the first active negotiation includes exchanging multi-attribute offers between the first party and the second party;

facilitating a second active negotiation between the first party and a third party, wherein facilitating the second active negotiation includes exchanging multi-attribute offers between the first party and the third party;

receiving an indication of an acceptable negotiation associated with the first active negotiation; and

sending a message to the third party to submit a final multi-attribute offer.

40.   (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 39, wherein facilitating the first active negotiation includes updating a first negotiation object.

41.   (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 39, wherein facilitating the second active negotiation includes updating a second negotiation object.

42.   (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 39, further comprising:

receiving a multi-attribute offer from the third party; and

validating the multi-attribute offer from the third party, wherein validating the multi-attribute offer includes determining whether the multi-attribute offer is greater than an offer associated with the acceptable negotiation between the first party and the second party.

43.   (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 39, wherein facilitating the second active negotiation includes receiving a retraction of an offer associated with the second active negotiation and retracting the offer associated with the second active negotiation.